Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It is orderd that the members of the Ruling Family as well as the children of the Ruling Family should be given exemption.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* In the answer it is said that a sum of Rs. 75 more could have been collected, had there been no exemption. May I know how many were exempted?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Only one instance.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is it in the case of the children of the Ruling Family or the members of the Ruling Family that the exemption is given?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Both.

DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN THE PAY-WARDS—REASONS FOR

381. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state why there was a substantial decrease in the number of patients admitted in the pay-wards from 241 in 1115 to 168 in the year 1116?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No definite reason can be given for the decrease in the number of patients admitted in 1116. Possibly it may be due to the fall in the incidence of disease among the class of people who resort to pay-wards and to the general economic depression.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether it may be due to other reasons also?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I don't understand the Hon'ble member.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is it because the doctors there are incompetent to deal with such cases?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I do not think so—it is an unwarranted statement.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Many people are going to Madras now. Why can't they have the best doctors at Ernakulam and Trichur?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They were going to Madras even before.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is the fall in the attendance of patients due to the increased rate of charges in the paywards?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* There is a substantial disparity in the figures given here. It has fallen from 241 to 168 in 1116.

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Of course, there has been a fall. It so happened last year that the number of cases fell down in the General Hospital.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* And you did not encourage deserving doctors too. So, they left the State service to places elsewhere. Dr. Sankarambal was a deserving doctor. You could not encourage her and she left us.

OPERATIONS DONE IN THE TRICHUR CIVIL HOSPITAL, THE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND THE MAHARAJA'S HOSPITAL, PALLURUTHI

382. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state why there is an apparently larger number of operations done in the Trichur Civil Hospital when compared with those done in the General Hospital and in the Maharaja's Hospital, Palluruthi, the operations in Trichur being 4,571 as against 917 and 573 in the General Hospital and Maharaja's Hospital respectively?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* The increase in the number of operations done in the Trichur Civil Hospital when compared with those done in the General Hospital and in the Maharaja's Hospital is because the number "4571" includes both major and minor operations. Only 472 major operations were performed in the Civil Hospital in 1116. The figures 917 and 573 represent the major operations performed in the General Hospital and Maharaja's Hospital respectively.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will the Hon'ble member in charge of medicine say that hereafter this sort of confusing statements will not appear?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* He will certainly see to it.

VOLUNTEER CORPS—STARTING OF

383. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Do Government encourage starting of volunteer corps in various parts of the State with a view to safeguard people from looting and other internal disorders?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Government have not encouraged the starting of such volunteer corps in the State.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: May I know whether the Government will encourage the starting of volunteer corps?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: It will be considered.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: In Madras there is a Unversity Volunteer Corps. Why not we start a similar organisation here?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: That is a University Training Corps which take in only University men. The question of having a small contingent of University Under-graduates is now being considered by the University in consultation with the two Principals.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Cannot our High Schools also be included in it?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: We cannot include the High Schools.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi)*: Did not the Trichur Municipality ask the Government permission to form their own volunteer organisation during this war time?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: I want notice.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Is it the policy of the Government to encourage these volunteer organisations, or not to encourage them?

THATCHING OF HOUSES IN DEPRESSED CLASS COLONIES

384. മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻ: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ട് സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ.

(എ) അധഃകൃത കോളണികളിലുള്ള ഭവനങ്ങളുടെ കെട്ടിമേച്ചിലുകൾ പുത്തീകരിച്ചുതായിട്ട് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ടിലേക്ക് റിപ്പോർട്ട് ലഭിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ;

(ബി) ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ കാരണം സദയം അറിയിക്കാമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ: (എ) അപ്രകാരം ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ട് ഗവൺമെണ്ടിലേക്ക് അയക്കാറില്ല. എല്ലാ കോളണികളിലും കെട്ടിമേച്ചിൽ സാധ്യങ്ങൾ ശേഖരിക്കുകയും, ഇരിപക്ഷം കോളണികളിലും ടി സാധനങ്ങൾ വീതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുകയും അവരവർതന്നെ വീടുകൾ കെട്ടിമേയുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

(ബി) ഉത്തരം ആവശ്യമില്ല.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES—PREVENTION OF

385. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Have Government taken any steps as a precautionary measure to prevent epidemic of cholera and other similar diseases on account of an influx of population in certain localities of the State?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*: The officers of the Public Health Department and the Municipalities have been instructed to be very vigilant in watching the evacuees with a view to prevent the importation of epidemic diseases and to take immediate measures, if any such imported case is detected, to check the spread of the disease.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The Cochin Christian Civil Marriage Act Repeal Bill

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: Mr. President, Sir, I move that the Cochin Christian Civil Marriage Act Repeal Bill be read in Council.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: I second it.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: Sir, in moving this Bill I may be allowed to bring to the notice of this House and Government that since the coming into force of this Act in the year 1095, nearly 27 years have passed and yesterday the Secretary to Government replied on the floor of this House that only 3 marriages have been registered according to this Act. As early as 27 years back no other community in the State was troubled with a Civil Marriage Legislation. The Christian community as a whole protested against it even in those old days. I remember that 27 years back this Act was passed by flouting the opinion of practically all the members of the Christian community then living. Years after 1095, in the year 1110 the Civil Marriage Act was passed by this House and assented to by His Highness the Maharaja. Within the last 7 years four marriages have been registered according to the Act. That shows the second Act has been more popular with the people than the previous Act which has been applicable only to Christians. If only 3 marriages have been registered according to the Christian Civil Marriage Act and that within the last 27 years, that is sufficient proof that the community do not want that Act nor many members of the community do suffer for the want of such an Act. Almost all the Christians of the State really do not want such an Act at present and practically nobody suffers for want of such a separate Act. No Christian believes

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